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CLASSIFICATION

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION FROM

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO.

COUNTRY

China

DATE OF

SUBJECT

Transportation - Marine shipping

INFORMATION

1950

HOW

PUBLISHED

Daily newspapers

DATE DIST. 29 Jun 1950

WHERF

PUBLISHED

Tientsin; Ning-po

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE

PUBLISHED

31 Mar 1950

SUPPLEMENT TO

LANGUAGE

Chinese

REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

STATE ARMY

Newspapers as indicated.

NORTH-SOUTH TRADE MAKES SLOW START

TRADE VOLUME STILL SMALL -- Tientsin Chin-pu Jih-pao, 31 Mar 50

The steamship Nan-mei arrived at Tientsin a few days ago from Swatow, loaded with 500 tons of brown and refined sugar. Although the exact date is unknown, this ship is to return to Swatow with bean cakes, beans, and peach

At present, there is no difficulty in trade between north and south as far as transportation is concerned, but the volume of trade is not yet very large. The North China Local Products Corporation and Swatow Trading Company are already working together to improve trade between these two areas, but additional assistance is needed by both public and private interests to increase the volume of trade.

Since the resumption of north-south trade early this year, trade in February showed a large increase. The total amount of trade between Tientsin and Swatow in February was as follows:

From Swatow to Tientsin -- 17,509 sacks of sugar, 746 bales of tea, and 160 bales of tin foil.

Fron Tientsin to Swatow -- 12,598 cattles of bean cakes, 666 sacks of beans, 300 sacks of fertilizer, 4,000 sacks of cement, 1,464 bales of miscellaneous items, and 100 bales of rose petals.

NORTH CHINA SHIPPING INDUSTRY TO BE IMPROVED -- Ning-po Jih-pao, 31 Mar 50

Tientsin, 29 March -- To stimulate the flow of goods between North, Northeast, and East China through marine shipping, the Shipping Administrative Bureau of the Ministry of Communications held a meeting of bureau and shipping company representatives from Yen-t'ai, Tsingtao, Lien-yun, Dairen, and Tientsin in Tientsin from 18 through 25 March 1950.

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It was pointed out at this meeting that, at present, there are too many ships and not enough freight in these areas, mainly due to the shipping charge being about 3 to 5 times higher than railroads. Also, lack of scheduled shipping routes and coordination between port authorities and shipping companies is hampering the shipping industry in the North China waters. It was, therefore, decided to take necessary steps to correct these situations.

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